

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-18 and enter new Claims 19-33.

1-18 (Canceled)

19. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein comprising an at least 20 amino acid region identical in sequence to an at least 20 amino acid region from SEQ ID NO:5.

20. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 19, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a protein at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:5 or SEQ ID NO:10, wherein said protein binds an antibody produced against a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:5.

21. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 19, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:5 or SEQ ID NO:10.

22. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 19, wherein said nucleic acid sequence has the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:7 or SEQ ID NO:9.

23. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 19, wherein said nucleic acid molecule consists of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:7 or SEQ ID NO:9.

24. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence which comprises an at least 45 contiguous nucleotide region identical in sequence to a 45 contiguous nucleotide region from SEQ ID NO:4.

25. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 24, wherein said nucleic acid sequence is at least about 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:7 or SEQ ID NO:9, and wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a protein that binds an antibody produced against a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:5.

26. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 24, wherein said nucleic acid sequence comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:7 and SEQ ID NO:9.

27. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 24, wherein said nucleic acid sequence consists of SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:7 or SEQ ID NO:9.

28. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 24, wherein said nucleic acid molecule consists of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:7 and SEQ ID NO:9.

29. (New) An isolated, recombinant nucleic acid molecule comprising:

(a) a first nucleic acid sequence comprising a means for encoding a canine IL-5 protein, wherein said encoded canine IL-5 protein binds an antibody produced against a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:5; and

(b) a second nucleic acid sequence operatively connected to said first nucleic acid sequence, wherein said second nucleic acid sequence constitutes a means for promoting expression of said first sequence.

30. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 29, wherein said canine IL-5 protein comprises an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:5 or SEQ ID NO:10.

31. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 29, wherein said canine IL-5 protein has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:5 or SEQ ID NO:10.

32. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 29, wherein said first nucleic acid sequence comprises a nucleotide sequence at least about 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:7 or SEQ ID NO:9.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

33. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 29, wherein said first nucleic acid sequence comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:7 or SEQ ID NO:9.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY